

Appl. No. 09/966,696

REMARKS

This response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated December 12, 2002. Claims 20 and 21 were allowed. Claims 1, 13 and 17 have been amended. Claims 15 and 16 have been cancelled and new Claims 26 to 40 have been added. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments made herein. A check in the amount of _____ has been submitted to cover the fees for any additional claims added to the application by this Response. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any insufficiency or to credit any overpayment.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by an article in the book entitled "Slot Machines" written by Marshall Fey ("Fey"). Claims 1 and 22 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,003,013 to Boushy, et al ("Boushy"). Claims 1 to 5, 7, 11 to 15, 18 to 19 and 22 to 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Document No. 10-052558 to Takatoshi, et al. ("Takatoshi"). Additionally, Claims 2 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boushy in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,161,805 to Wells ("Wells"). Claims 2 and 23 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fey in view of Wells. Additionally, Claims 6, 8 to 10 and 16 to 17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

[INSERT PARAGRAPHS FOR THE RESPONSE HERE]

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Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by the present amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made"**.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and in the absence of more pertinent art such action is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorney, Adam Masia, at (312) 807-4284 to discuss this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A gaming device comprising:
a cabinet;
a support connected to the cabinet; and
a container-item holder connected to the support, wherein said container-item holder includes a container holder and an item holder connected to the container holder.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

13. (Amended) A container-item holder for a gaming device including a cabinet and a support connected to the cabinet, said container-item holder comprising:
a container holding portion adapted to be mounted to the support, said container holding portion including a base and a body extending from the base, wherein said base and body define a chamber for receiving and holding a container, and wherein the base defines at least one opening to enable fluid to drain from the chamber;
and
an item holding portion connected to the container holding portion.

[13, 15 & 16]

Please cancel Claim 15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

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Please cancel Claim 16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 17 has been amended as follows:

17. (Amended) The container-item holder of Claim ~~45~~ 13, wherein the body includes a flange which has a circumference greater than a circumference of a channel in the support adapted to receive the body.

Claim 22 has been amended as follows:

22. (Amended) A gaming device comprising:
a cabinet; and
a support connected to the cabinet which defines at least one channel within the support which is adapted to receive a container-item holder, wherein said container-item holder includes a container holder and at least one item holder connected from the container holder.

New Claims 26 to ____ have been added.